

against criteria contained in a solicitation package that will be provided to applicants by FEMA upon request.

Personnel qualifications are to address one or several staff in the following positions: Task Force Leader, Safety Officer, Planning Officer, Search Team Manager, Canine Search Specialist, Technical Search Specialist, Rescue Team Manager, Rescue Squad Officer, Rescue Specialist, Medical Team Manager, Medical Specialist, Technical Team Manager, Structures Specialist, Hazardous Materials Specialist, Heavy Rigging Specialist, Technical Information Specialist, Communications Specialist, and Logistics Specialist.

Equipment lists contained in the solicitation package address the following types of equipment: Rescue, medical, technical, communications, and logistical support. In addition to reviewing the capabilities of the local jurisdiction against the listed criteria, FEMA will also consider the geographical location of the applicants to ensure a capability broadly distributed across the United States.

Local capabilities will be evaluated on how well they currently meet the required criteria of the 25 FEMA recognized US&R task forces in the National US&R Response System. Evaluation for acceptance into the National US&R Response System will be based on, but not limited to, the following factors:

1. Is there a local and/or regional need for a US&R task force?
2. Is there State or local sponsorship for a task force?
3. Is there a financial commitment on the part of State and local government sponsors to fund local training and administrative costs associated with a US&R task force?
4. Is there local administrative/finance infrastructure in place which will allow for development and maintenance of a US&R task force?
5. Are there sufficient management level personnel within the sponsoring organization with experience in managing large, complex operations who will be involved in the management of the task force?
6. Are there adequate local personnel resources to staff a US&R task force fully (62 positions with three personnel rostered for each position), including such specialized positions as structural engineers, canine handlers, and emergency medicine board certified physicians, without adversely affecting the ability of the sponsoring organization to respond to local emergencies?

7. Do personnel in the sponsoring organization have experience in collapsed structures and search and rescue operations, i.e., search, rescue, medical and technical operations?

8. Does the sponsoring organization have the financial commitment to develop and maintain an extensive, dedicated, equipment cache which includes specialized communications, medical care, search, safety, rescue, technical operations, and logistics equipment? Are there currently adequate, secure facilities for storage and maintenance of the equipment cache?

9. Does the sponsoring organization have the capability to be self-sufficient, both personnel and equipment, for 72 hours to sustain a 10-day operation?

10. Is there an ongoing training/exercise certification program in structural collapse search and rescue operations?

11. Are adequate US&R training facilities available?

12. Does the sponsoring organization have access to an appropriate airlift facility that will accommodate wide-body military aircraft?

In addition to the review for technical merit by a panel of national experts, FEMA will consider the following geographic factors in the final selections for funding: A balanced geographic distribution of task forces throughout the nation; seismic hazard, including the historic occurrence of damaging earthquakes, as well as probable seismic activity; hurricane potential, including the historic occurrence of damaging hurricanes; total population and major urban concentrations exposed to such risks; and other factors including the loss, damage, or disruption of which by man-made or natural means would have serious national impacts upon national security, such as industrial concentrations, concentrations or occurrences of natural resources, financial/economic centers and national defense facilities.

The project for which the grant application is made is for the augmentation of training and equipment needed by the applicant, as determined by comparing their existing resources and capabilities with the criteria of current FEMA US&R task forces. Federal funds made available through this program to organizations sponsoring task forces selected to become part of the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System must be directed at a specific list of objectives intended to eliminate the shortfall of equipment and training and provide a direct benefit to the capability of the task force.

Grant application packages must be submitted by the endorsing State emergency management agency to the appropriate FEMA Regional Office, Attention: Regional Director.

James L. Witt,

Director.

[FR Doc. 96-31074 Filed 12-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6718-02-P

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Notice of Agreement(s) Filed

The Commission hereby gives notice of the filing of the following agreement(s) under the Shipping Act of 1984.

Interested parties can review or obtain copies of agreements at the Washington, DC offices of the Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Room 962. Interested parties may submit comments on an agreement to the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC 20573, within 10 days of the date this notice appears in the Federal Register.

Agreement No.: 202-010689-062.

Title: Transpacific Westbound Conference.

Parties: American President Lines, Ltd., Hapag Lloyd AG, Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Ltd., A.P. Moller-Maersk Line, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd., Nedlloyd Lijnen B.V., Neptune Orient Container, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Ltd., Orient Overseas Container, Sea-Land Service, Inc., P&O Containers.

Synopsis: The proposed modification makes several nonsubstantive changes to correct errors in the Agreement. It also makes a substantive change by extending the expiration date for shortened (3-day) notice in the case of IAs on out of gauge cargo. The parties have requested a shortened review period.

By order of the Federal Maritime Commission.

Ronald D. Murphy,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 96-31014 Filed 12-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6730-01-M

Ocean Freight Forwarder License Applicants

Notice is hereby given that the following applicants have filed with the Federal Maritime Commission applications for licenses as ocean freight forwarders pursuant to section 19 of the Shipping Act of 1984 (46 U.S.C. app. 1718 and 46 CFR 510).

Persons knowing of any reason why any of the following applicants should